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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Fifteenth session,
Geneva, 29 June-10 July 1998
agenda item 5 (a))

MISCELLANEOUS DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Listing and Classification

Nitroglycerin mixture, desensitized, liquid, non-flammable, N.O.S. with not more than 30% nitroglycerin, by mass

Transmitted by the Expert from Germany

INTRODUCTION:

At the 12th session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods the Expert from Germany had proposed amongst others an UN No. for "NITROGLYCERIN MIXTURE, DESENSITIZED, LIQUID, N.O.S., with not more than 30% nitroglycerin, by mass". After discussion of the German proposal the Expert from Germany announced that, because of the outstanding debate of the Belgian proposal concerning the introduction of UN entries in class 3 for desensitized nitroglycerin mixtures (see doc. ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1997/47), he would still have to revise his proposal and submit it in due course.

For the time being the following nitroglycerin mixtures are transported in Germany:

1. max. 10 % in bivalent alcohols (e.g. 1,2-Propanediol, flash point: 101°C)

2. max.5% in vegetable oils with flash point >200°C (medium chain Triglycerides of different lengths and viscosity)

3. max. 5,5% in a dispersion of inert, solid, organic and anorganic as well as inert liquid, non flammable substances

4. max. 20% in an aqueous Polymer suspension (Polyacrylat).

In Germany these mixtures are packaged as follows:

Stainless steel or a lined steel drum, non-removable head, 1A1, not exceeding 200 litres in volume. The heads of the drums may contain openings exceeding 7 cm in diameter, if they are closed by a screw-top or a closely fixed lid.

Packages should be provided with a pressure relief device the set pressure of which is 3 bar (overpressure). This device should be activated in the event of fire engulfment at a temperature level of 125°C and should be so contructed in order to clear an opening of not less than 44 mm in diameter.

The above mentioned mixtures are not subject to the flash point- and boiling point- criteria of class 3.

As in Germany the transport of nitroglycerin mixtures, non- flammable, is still of great importance, the Expert from Germany proposes a new UN entry for the above mentioned mixtures in the UN Recommendations. The test data have already been submitted with the German document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/R. 606.

PROPOSAL:

The Expert from Germany proposes the following new UN entry:

> "UN No. XXXX NITROGLYCERIN MIXTURE, DESENSITIZED, LIQUID, NON-FLAMMABLE, N.O.S. with not more than 30% nitroglycerin, by mass", class 3, packing group II, special provisions 109 and 274".

The following new special provision:

> "These substances shall not be classified and transported unless authorized by the competent authority on the basis of results from Series 2 tests and a Series 6 (c) test on packages as prepared for transport (see 2.1.3.1) . The competent authority shall assign the package type used for the Series 6(c) test."

should be added to this UN No.

The proposed new UN No., including special provisions, should be included in chapter 3.2 of the UN Recommendations and chapter 3.3 respectively.

In addition the proposed UN entry should be included in the ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF SUBSTANCES AND ARTICLES.